

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
Continuation Application of  
U.S. Appln. No. 08/734,778

**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

The present application is being filed to continue prosecution of the subject matter of claims 7, 10 and 16-17 of the parent application 08/734,778, with modifications to describe the invention more particularly. The invention is now described by added claims 3-6. The modifications are supported, for example, at page 4, line 21 and Fig. 9. Applicant submits that the art of record does not describe the straight line distance and extracting device of the now pending claims.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider and make of record in the present application all of the references of record in the parent application, which are listed on the PTO-1449 form submitted with the attached Information Disclosure Statement.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that claims 3-6 are in condition for allowance. Therefore it is respectfully requested that the submitted application be passed to issue at the earliest possible time. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changed deemed necessary.

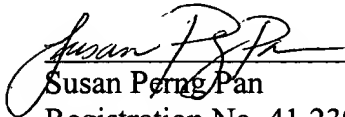
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Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

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